Greetings,
The afterglow of celebrating commencement continues to be felt by students, families, friends and here on campus. It is always such a joyful experience, especially this year with the largest graduating class in the history of Indiana University South Bend. As chancellor, graduation is the highlight of the year, as we honor the students who have worked so hard to earn their degrees at IU South Bend. This newsletter will highlight commencement but there are other important items I want to share with you.

Commencement Honors Largest Graduating Class

The largest graduating class in the history of Indiana University South Bend was honored at the May 9 commencement ceremonies. A record 1,236 degrees were conferred, breaking the previous record of 1,137 set in 2003. IU President Adam W. Herbert delivered the charge to the class.

Dr. Roland Chamblee Sr., local physician, civil rights spokesman and the medical director of the St. Joseph County Health Department, was awarded an honorary degree in science from the university. Marsha Brook, retired associate director of administration for Madison Center, received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Profiles of Graduating Students

Several graduates were recognized during commencement as outstanding representatives of IU South Bend. Here are some examples:

Steve Duleh graduated with a degree in biological sciences. He has a 3.94 grade point average overall and a 4-point in his major. Duleh was named the winner of a prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research grant and will be attending the University of California – Berkeley in the fall to begin work on his doctorate in molecular and cell biology.

Dawn Ferrara graduated with a 3.97 grade point average, which not only was the highest in her class at IU South Bend but the highest of 182 students in the School of Nursing for all of Indiana University.

Bo Turner graduated with a Master’s degree in Public Affairs. Bo came to United States in 1985 as a political refugee from Poland and was active in the Solidarity labor movement that led to democracy in Poland. Bo also earned his bachelor’s degree at IU South Bend and his daughters, Sarah and Agnes are students here.

Luis Cintron-Rolon graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Management and Administration from the School of Business and Economics. He is a member of the U.S. Army Reserves and was deployed to Iraq twice while studying at IU South Bend.

Campus Campaign is a Success

The inaugural IU South Bend Campus Campaign was a huge success. More than $14,500 was contributed by faculty and staff which was nearly triple the goal. The donations will be distributed among existing campus funds. Congratulations to members of the Employee Giving Campaign committee: Rick Dennie, Ada Douglas-

Upcoming Events

June 2, 3, 4
Michiana Improvisational Music Festival
Northside Recital Hall
For tickets contact: (574) 520-4203

June 12-15 & July 3-6
IU South Bend Basketball Camp
For information contact: Micah Shrewsberry at (574) 520-4508

July 5
Summer Session II begins
To apply contact: www.iusb.edu/~admissio/summer.shtml

August 28
Fall Session begins
To apply contact: www.iusb.edu/~admissio
New Dean of the School of Education

Michael Horvath has been named the dean of the School of Education. Horvath is no stranger to South Bend or the university. He earned his master's degree at IU South Bend, taught in South Bend schools, and was a summer faculty member here. Horvath comes to IU South Bend from Missouri Southern State University where he has served as the dean of education since 1995. He received his bachelor's degree from IU Bloomington and his doctorate in education from the University of Arizona. Horvath starts his duties at IU South Bend on July 3.

New Biochemistry Degree Offered

IU South Bend will be offering a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry beginning in the fall of 2006. The expansion of biochemistry in industry and academic research has created a large job market for graduates. The new degree also will provide a solid background for students pursuing degrees in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary science, and other health related fields. For further information, contact Gretchen Anderson at (574) 520-4820 or ganderso@iusb.edu.

Faculty Receive Grants

Three faculty members have been named recipients of substantial research grants.

Ilan Levine, assistant professor of physics, received a $280,000 grant over three years from the National Science Foundation to continue his study of dark matter.

Elizabeth Bennion, assistant professor of political science, received a $215,000 grant from the George Washington School of Public Management and the Pew Charitable trusts. Bennion will work with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) to conduct an 80-campus voter mobilization field experiment. This project will register 50,000 voters while measuring the relative effectiveness of different voter registration strategies.

Henry Scott, assistant professor of physics, received $35,000 from the Petroleum Foundation to continue his research on the possibility of an inorganic source of hydrocarbons more than 100 miles down in the earth's crust.

Bennion will serve as principal investigator for the project which will include all IU campuses.

One Book, One Campus

The book The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman is the selection for the 2006-07 One Book, One Campus program. The book was selected in a campus-wide vote by students, faculty, and staff. One Book, One Campus encourages students, faculty, staff, and the community to read the same book and participate in discussions and campus events related to the work. The book is the third selected title and it ties into the campus theme of “Diversity and Dialogue.”

Pedestrian Bridge Update

The red steel sections of the pedestrian bridge now span the St. Joseph River. However, much work remains to be done. Workers are now leveling the sections in preparation for pouring concrete that will form the six-inch floor of the bridge. Sidewalks and driveways also are under construction. Electrical work will follow. The pedestrian bridge links the main campus with 26 acres on the south side of the river that will be developed to meet the growing needs of IU South Bend. Plans include additional parking, recreational fields, and the possibility of future student housing.

As you can see, exciting things are happening at IU South Bend. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions as IU South Bend continues its mission as the only public, bachelor's and master's degree granting institution of higher education in Michiana.

Sincerely,

Una Mae Reck
Chancellor, Indiana University South Bend